

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:

I am writing in support of a declaration that your translocation of sea otters to San Nicholas Island has failed, and also to request that you eliminate the "no otter zone" in the waters south of Point Conception.

There are several reasons to take these actions. One is that removal of otters from specific areas will result in otter deaths and a reduction, rather than a growth, of their population. This works against the goal of conserving this native species. Additionally, it is very expensive, and not a good use of taxpayer money.

Also, if the fishing industry is declining, it is generally due to overfishing and pollution, not sea mammals. The current population levels of sea urchins/abalones/otters was created by overfishing in the first place!

Please take this opportunity to help the otters! They are an important part of our environment. Additionally, they are very popular with taxpayers and voters such as myself.

Sincerely,

Michele Bedjai

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